

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently Amended) A motor for driving a blower fan comprising:
a cylindrical case body having a front end opening portion and a rear end opening
portion;
a rear end plate fixed on the rear end opening portion of the case body, the rear end plate
having a first bearing;
a front end plate fixed on the front end opening portion of the case body, the front end
plate having a second bearing;
a rotary drive shaft inserted into the central portion of the case body, the rotary drive
shaft whose rear end portion is rotatably supported on the rear end plate through the first bearing
and whose forward middle portion is rotatably supported on the front end plate through the
second bearing;
a rotor fixed on the middle portion of the rotary drive shaft;
a stator fixed on the inner circumferential surface of the case body to face to the outer
circumferential surface of the rotor; and
a circumferential reinforcing element provided in the vicinity of an end portion of the
stator,

wherein the circumferential reinforcing element includes a ring portion and a cylinder portion extending from an outer peripheral edge of the ring portion, and

wherein said cylinder portion is continuous about a 360 degree circumference, ~~The motor as set forth in claim 1~~ wherein the reinforcing portion is integrally formed with the case body.

3-6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A motor for driving a blower fan comprising:
a cylindrical case body having a front end opening portion and a rear end opening portion;
a rear end plate fixed on the rear end opening portion of the case body, the rear end plate having a first bearing;
a front end plate fixed on the front end opening portion of the case body, the front end plate having a second bearing;
a rotary drive shaft inserted into the central portion of the case body, the rotary drive shaft whose rear end portion is rotatably supported on the rear end plate through the first bearing and whose forward middle portion is rotatably supported on the front end plate through the second bearing;
a rotor fixed on the middle portion of the rotary drive shaft;

a stator fixed on the inner circumferential surface of the case body to face to the outer circumferential surface of the rotor; and

a circumferential reinforcing element provided in the vicinity of an end portion of the stator,

wherein the circumferential reinforcing element includes a ring portion and a cylinder portion extending from an outer peripheral edge of the ring portion, and

wherein said cylinder portion is continuous about a 360 degree circumference, -

~~The motor as set forth in claim 1~~ wherein, before the ring portion is fixed, the outer circumferential surface of the cylinder portion has a conic surface inclined in a direction such that a diameter increases as a distance from the ring portion increases.

8-11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) A motor for driving a blower fan comprising:

a cylindrical case body having a front end opening portion and a rear end opening portion;

a rear end plate fixed on the rear end opening portion of the case body, the rear end plate having a first bearing;

a front end plate fixed on the front end opening portion of the case body, the front end plate having a second bearing;

a rotary drive shaft inserted into the central portion of the case body, the rotary drive shaft whose rear end portion is rotatably supported on the rear end plate through the first bearing and whose forward middle portion is rotatably supported on the front end plate through the second bearing;

a rotor fixed on the middle portion of the rotary drive shaft;

a stator fixed on the inner circumferential surface of the case body to face to the outer circumferential surface of the rotor; and

a reinforcing portion provided in the vicinity of an end portion of the stator,

wherein the reinforcing portion includes a ring portion and a cylinder portion extending from an outer peripheral edge of the ring portion, and wherein the reinforcing portion is integrally formed with the case body.

13. (Previously Presented) A motor for driving a blower fan comprising:

a cylindrical case body having a front end opening portion and a rear end opening portion;

a rear end plate fixed on the rear end opening portion of the case body, the rear end plate having a first bearing;

a front end plate fixed on the front end opening portion of the case body, the front end plate having a second bearing;

a rotary drive shaft inserted into the central portion of the case body, the rotary drive shaft whose rear end portion is rotatably supported on the rear end plate through the first bearing

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/816,348
ART UNIT 2834

DOCKET NO. Q63433

and whose forward middle portion is rotatably supported on the front end plate through the second bearing;

a rotor fixed on the middle portion of the rotary drive shaft;

a stator fixed on the inner circumferential surface of the case body to face to the outer circumferential surface of the rotor; and

a reinforcing portion provided in the vicinity of an end portion of the stator,

wherein the reinforcing portion includes a ring portion and a cylinder portion extending from an outer peripheral edge of the ring portion, and wherein, before the ring portion is fixed, the outer circumferential surface of the cylinder portion has a conic surface inclined in a direction such that a diameter increases as a distance from the ring portion increases.

14. (Canceled).